ECLIPSE COMICS
10th Anniversary 1988
mini-series
№ 5 of 6
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CANADA
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LOST PLANET
Bo Hampton '87

# The PENUMBRA

WRITE TO: ECLIPSE COMICS - P.O. BOX 1099 - FORESTVILLE - CALIFORNIA - 95436

## ON THE RACKS

*A* indicates an *Airboy* title.
*4W* indicates a 4Winds production.

**AIRBOY no. 37** *A*
Airboy and Skywolf face death on the gallows, while the Iron Ace and Hiroto fight to save their lives.

**FUSION no. 8**
Expecting a pleasure resort planet, the Tsunami crew instead finds a puritanical population!

**KAMUI nos. 20 & 21**
Have Ulsuse and Koyota found Koyota's long lost father—only to lose him to crucifixion?

**XENON nos. 7 & 8**
The Bloody Sea will stop at nothing to destroy Xenon, even if it means unleashing the Demon Three.

**ZOT! no. 17**
Life goes smoothly for our heroes until they're plunged into the turbulent mind of the mad cyborg, Dekko!

**SCOUT: WAR SHAMAN no. 1**
***New Series! 4W***
Timothy Truman—and Emanuel Santana—return with the second phase of the best-selling **Scout** saga! This first issue is painted in full color by Truman, and takes place fifteen years after the events in Scout #24.

**AREA 88 nos. 20 & 21**
Kanzaki joins forces with the mafia to have Shin assassinated.

**MAI THE PSYCHIC GIRL nos. 20 & 21**
The battle of the century begins in the skies over Tokyo as Turm and Mai face off—psychic against psychic!

**STRIKE! VERSUS SGT. STRIKE SPECIAL no. 1** *4W*
Find out where America's Secret Weapon has been all these years when he meets the new owner of the power-harness. This special leads directly into **Total Eclipse**.

**R.O.B.O.T. BATTALION 2050**
When all nuclear material on earth is used up, the arms race continues... with robots? Cover by Bill Sienkiewicz.

**REVENGE OF PROWLER no. 2** *4W*
This special issue contains **The Second 4Winds Flexidisc**, with the Prowler WWII booster song by Michael Price and the 1980s Prowler theme song by Timothy Truman.

**AIRFIGHTERS CLASSICS no. 3** *A*
Learn the secrets of Birdie in this facsimile reprint of **Airfighters Comics** Vol. 1, #4.

**HAND OF FATE no. 2**
Artemus Fate encounters murder victims who are either drained of blood or skinned alive!

**POWER COMICS no. 1**
Eclipse International and Acme Press bring you an exciting super hero series originally published in 1975 in Nigeria. Art by Dave Gibbons and Brian Bolland!

**XYR** ***New Title!***
The world's first alternate ending comic! Help Xyr choose which path to follow to find the missing August Shiller!

**SKYWOLF no. 1** ***New Series! A***
Continuing his story from his back-up in **Airboy**, Skywolf and the Bald Eagle go on a treasure hunt in Viet Nam.

**VALKYRIE: PRISONER OF THE PAST**
The sell-out mini-series is now available in a signed & limited hardback collection.

**WE HAVE A WINNER:** The winner of the **LEN WEIN EARTHQUAKE ARTIFACT SWEEPSTAKES** is **W. C. ("LUCKY") KRAMER** of Omaha, Nebraska! This fortunate person wins a two-pound chunk of writer Len Wein's garden wall, which was broken off during the "Pasadena Earthquake," on October 1st, 1987. The piece of wall was autographed by Len and comes complete with a certificate of authenticity. WOW!

**FREE COMICS FOR ECLIPSE WATCHERS:** Our most recent free comics promotion (the WPA Post Office Mural Survey) netted us so many replies that we're doing it again. This time you'll get a free comic book for each Eclipse Watcher Store Survey you turn in, and your store will receive a specially matted art print by Timothy Truman signifying their co-operation in the Eclipse Watchers program.

Here are the rules:

Buy a pre-stamped postcard (no letter entries will be accepted), grab a pen, and go to your local comic book shop. You will have to ask the clerk or manager for some of this information, so try to do it during a quiet time, when there aren't a lot of customers around.

On the postcard, write down the following information:

**The name and address of this comic book shop is _____.**

**The owner's name is _____.**

**The shop is__square feet in size.**

**The owner buys comics from (name(s) of distributor(s)).**

**The comics in this shop are displayed (on spinners) (on racks) (in piles all over the place) (other system: please describe).**

**The comics are racked (alphabetically by title) (by publisher, then alphabetically by title) (by shipping date) (in random order) (other system: please describe).**

**This store (does) (does not) offer a "comic saver" subscription service.**

**This store (did) (did not) display Eclipse posters on the walls or in windows in 1987. (Posters sent free to stores in 1987 included *Xenon*, *Mai*, *Area 88*, *Sisterhood of Steel*, *California Girls*, *Detectives Inc.*, *4Winds*, and *Kamui*.)**

**The owner tells me that the best selling Eclipse title in this store is (name of title).**

**This store sells about (number) copies of this title every issue.**

**This store (does) (does not) give out the *Eclipse Extra!* to customers.**

**This store (does) (does not) carry every Eclipse title published.**

**If answer to previous question was "does not": The owner (will) (will not) special order any Eclipse title for me from the distributor.**

That's all there is to it. Just fill in the answers and send your postcard to ECLIPSE WATCHERS STORE SURVEY, P.O. BOX 1099, FORESTVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95436.

If you have complete runs of certain titles, tell us, and we'll make sure your free comic is something you don't already have.

Why are we running this survey? Well, in the last few months we have been getting more letters than usual from fans who buy our back issues by mail order and complain that "This issue never made it to my store" or, worse, "This title isn't available here."

We have a pretty good idea of the most often "unavailable" Eclipse titles (they are *Fusion*, *Zot!*, *Prowler*, *The Dreamery*, *Strike!*, *Tales of the Beanworld*, and *California Girls*) but we need to find out how widespread the problem is before we can correct it. If your store doesn't carry some or all the titles i just mentioned, try asking the owner why. Write down the answer if there's still room on the postcard.

And, yes, all you ambitious Eclipse Watchers: You CAN survey as many stores as you want, and you'll earn a free comic book for EACH postcard you send in. And every store you survey will get a free Tim Truman art print, too.

catherine yronwode

**LOST PLANET™** no. 5, February 1988. Published bi-monthly by Eclipse Comics, P.O. Box 1099, Forestville, CA 95436. Letitia Glozer, Editor. Catherine Yronwode, Editor-in-Chief. Dean Mullaney, Publisher. Lost Planet: story and art ©1988 Bo Hampton. "Devil's Eye," story ©1988 Bunny Hampton. Art ©1988 Garrett Lavin. Lost Planet TM Bo Hampton. All other material ©1988 Eclipse Enterprises, Inc. All rights reserved. Film by SM Graphics. For licensing information contact Dean Mullaney.

THE FOLLOWING DAY...
WAKE UP, PAL...
...LISTEN, YOU DON'T KNOW ME, BUT YOUR FRIENDS ARE IN BIG TROUBLE...
:OOH: :OOH: :EEH: :OOH:!
IF YOU KNOW, THEN WHY ARE YOU LYING AROUND HERE?
:UHH: :OOH: :OOH: :EEEP:!
THEY TOLD YOU TO WAIT HERE, HUH... LET THE ABOREALS TAKE CARE OF YOU??
:OOP: :OOP: :EEH: :ORPP:??
ROMNEY DIDN'T COME TO SAY GOODBYE BECAUSE SHE COULDN'T...
...SHE WAS TAKEN AWAY TO ZAORN'S CASTLE WHERE SHE'LL PROBABLY BE TORTURED TO DEATH!
:UH:?
EEP! EEEP!!
ACK!!! EEP!!
WELL, THAT'S MORE LIKE IT!
WALIGH?!!
FLAP! FLAP! FLAP!
LOOKS LIKE OUR RIDE IS HERE!
IT REALLY DOES PAY TO HAVE FRIENDS IN HIGH PLACES!

WE'LL NEED TO LEAVE THE RIVER NOW AND HEAD EAST!
THE GIRL WOULD HAVE TO HAVE ONE OF THE GEMS... WHO COULD SHE HAVE STOLEN IT FROM? NO MATTER... LET'S SEE...
...WE HAVE THE TWELVE I WAS ABLE TO GATHER PLUS CRATER'S, MINE AND YOURS...
MINE? I NEVER HAD ONE...
...I ALMOST GOT ONE BUT THEN THERE WAS THIS FLASH AND I WAS HERE!
WONDERFUL! ANOTHER VARIABLE UNACCOUNTED FOR!!
ACHAAIEE!!
:ULP!

LIFE!
BACK, YOU DEVIL!
CHUKK!
AIECHAMMAH!!
CHOCK!
WHOA!!
GLGG!
CHK!
AMBROSE! IN THE TREES BEHIND YOU!!
DEFTLY AMBROSE SIDE STEPS THE LEAPING NATIVE...
...AND THE BATTLE IS WON...
YOU ARE AS OLD AS YOU FEEL, FLYNN! THAT'S A FAC-
-T-T-...
HUH??
3

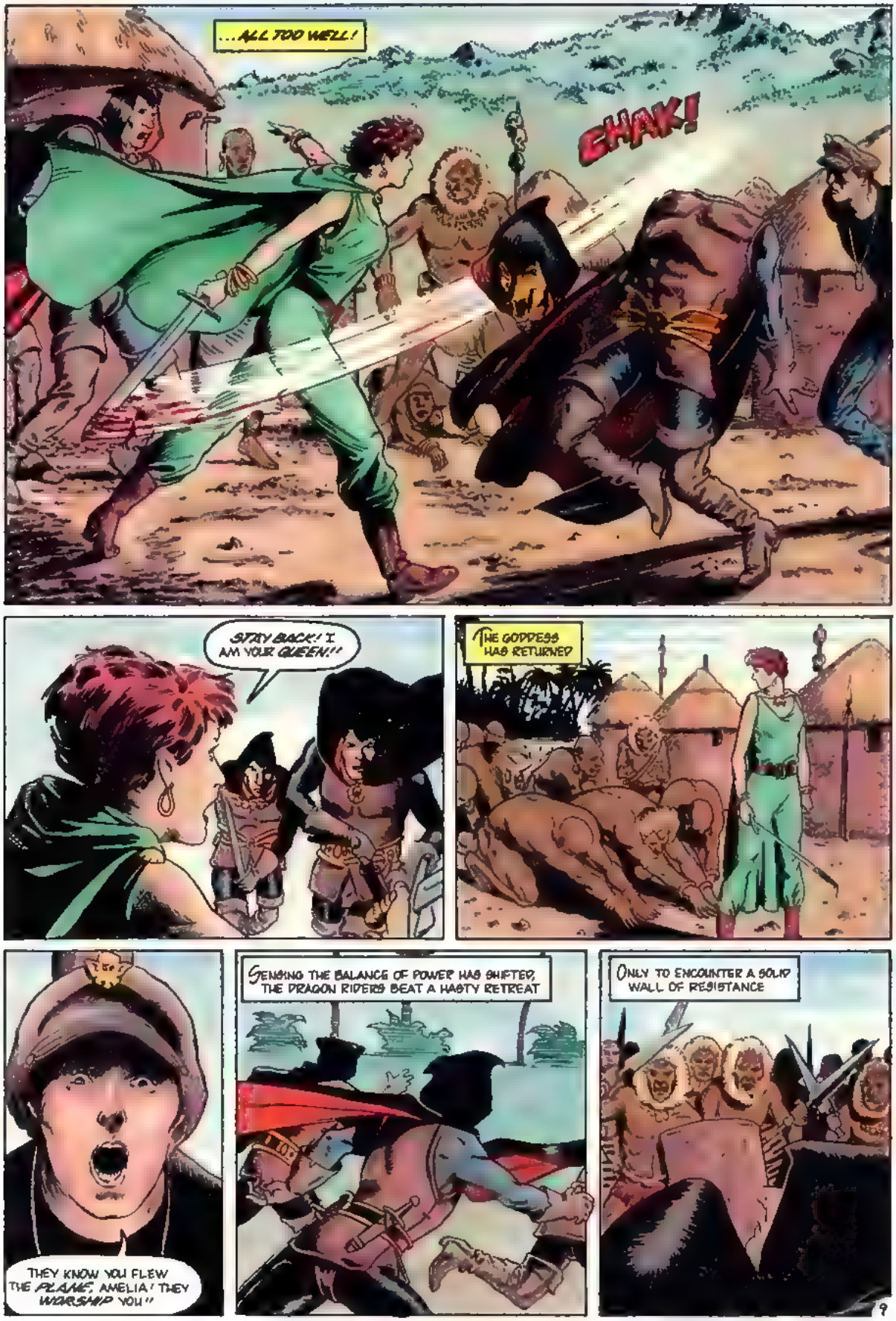
CASTLE ZORRIN...
YES... I KNOW, MINERVA. I'VE ALREADY HAD CRATER'S REPORT. HE ARRIVED DAYS AGO. I'VE DISPATCHED HIM TO A NEW LOCATION, ALONG WITH THE QUEEN AMELIA... SHE NEEDED TO GET OUT FOR A WHILE...
I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANY EMERALD, EITHER! I'VE HAD ENOUGH WEALTH FOR A THOUSAND LIFETIMES! I WANT AMBROSE...
...AND THE NEWCOMER!
I KNOW AMBROSE KILLED YOUR FATHER ...BUT WHY THE NEWCOMER?
ALL NEWCOMERS FROM EARTH ARE A BLIGHT UPON THIS WORLD. THEY COULD NOT COME HERE WITHOUT SOMEHOW USING THE CHAMBER SET UP BY OUR HATED ENEMIES, THE SCIENTISTS OF IRIEL...
...THREE CENTURIES AGO THOSE SCIENTISTS NEARLY DESTROYED THIS WORLD WITH THEIR MISSILES... THEY MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO GAIN A FOOTHOLD HERE AGAIN.
I WILL DESTROY THE SCIENTISTS, THEIR BROOD, AND ALL WHO CONSORT WITH THEM WHEREVER AND WHENEVER I CAN... IT IS MY LEGACY.
THRALLWYN MUST BE A WORLD OF MAGIC!
CONTROLLED BY THAT THING IN THE WELL...
SILENCE!
SPEAK NO BLASPHEMIES, CREATURE! THIS PLANET MUST REACH ITS MILLENIUM!
WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT ...WHEN THE STARS ALIGN THEMSELVES IN THE BLACKNESS...
...WHEN THE WORLD SWELLS WITH THE PURITY OF ALL EVIL BOILING BENEATH ITS SURFACE... THEN HE SHALL COME FORTH TO CLAIM US ALL...
HE IS MANDERRAK, THE DARK GOD...
AND HE HAS NO LOVE FOR SCIENCE.
4

MOMENTS LATER, AS AMBROSE IS REVIVED...
YOU PICKED A FINE TIME FOR A HEART ATTACK! ARE THESE THE RIGHT PILLS?
YES... THANKS.
JUST A SPASM, REALLY... BUT... IT LEAVES ME... VERY... WEAK.
BUT I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU'D LIVE LONGER HERE!
LONGER... IS... NOT... FOREVER.
EVEN AN OLD WAR HORSE DESERVES A REST ONCE IN A WHILE...
PERHAPS... BUT I DON'T... THINK... I'LL... GET IT.
SOON.
Y'KNOW, SOMEHOW I GET THE FEELING I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE.

ARE THESE GUYS CANNIBALS, AMBROSE?
NO... I THINK WE'RE... MEANT TO... BE ...SACRIFICED... TO... SOMETHING...
AHH, MY QUEEN... YOUR PRESENCE HAS BROUGHT US LUCK! LOOK THERE!
OUR QUARRY IS BEING PREPARED FOR US!
DRAGON RIDERS! HEY! DON'T PASS OUT ON ME NOW!
I'M... SO... TIRED
CRATER'S PARTY DESCENDS AND THE SAVAGES BREAK AWAY-- RECOGNIZING THE FAMILIAR ARMOR OF THE ZORRIN CLAN.
THE NATIVE'S CEREMONY IS INTERRUPTED AS A STRANGE ICON IS WHEELED IN...
AMBROSE! CRATER'S HERE... AND THE NATIVES ARE PULLING SOMETHING... I'D SWEAR IT WAS AN AIRPLANE COVERED IN JUNGLE MUCK!

HAVE NO FEAR, MY QUEEN. THESE SAVAGES WOULD NEVER ATTACK US...
WHAT'S THAT?
UH... DON'T CONCERN YOURSELF, AMELIA, MERELY SOME PAGAN IDOL.
SOMEHOW THE BIZARRE MOSS AND STRAW COVERED MONOLITH HOLDS AMELIA'S ATTENTION... IT SEEMS SO ODD AND YET POWERFULLY FAMILIAR...
AHH... AMBROSE, AT LAST WE MEET. YOUR TRICKERY DURING OUR LAST ENCOUNTER WAS QUITE AMUSING. HOWEVER, IT DOES APPEAR THAT I'M TO HAVE THE LAST LAUGH AFTER ALL.
HE PASSED OUT, CRATER! HE CAN'T HEAR YOU!
THEN YOU'D BETTER HEAR ME, FLYNN. I FIRST HEARD ABOUT THE EMERALDS YEARS AGO WHEN I WAS AN ATTORNEY IN NEW YORK...
...I REQUIRED FUNDS... QUICKLY! CERTAIN BUSINESS ASSOCIATES WERE RATHER UNHAPPY WITH ME SO I SET OFF FOR PERU.
NOW, AS IT HAPPENS, I FIND THRALLWYN A CHARMING PLACE, BUT I MISS INDOOR PLUMBING. I INTEND TO GO HOME NOW AND I NEED ALL OF THE EMERALDS IN ORDER TO ACCOMPLISH THAT. I KNOW AMBROSE HAS THEM. WHERE ARE THEY??
WELL...?
NEVER MIND
7

SWAAP!
UNH!!
GATHER UP THE STONES, CAPTAIN... I'LL TAKE CARE OF THESE TWO.
A SUDDEN WIND BLOWS BACK AMELIA'S HOODED CAPE... AS SHE INSPECTS THE STRANGE IDOL... AND FOR THE MOTHER A PROPHECY IS FULFILLED.
BUT FOR THE MAPLE 96 AVIATOR THERE IS ONLY ONE IMAGE IN THE WORLD...
NR 6020
SHE STANDS TRANSFIXED AS A SERIES OF NUMBERS ARE REVEALED BY A SECOND GUST OF WIND...
SUDDENLY SHE REMEMBERS! REMEMBERS THE SOUND OF ROARING ENGINES AND THUNDER CRACKLING...
PLEASE, LADY! YOU CAN'T JUST LET HIM KILL US!!
HEY!! I KNOW WHO YOU ARE!
SILENCE!
YOU'RE AMELIA EARHART!
AND FINALLY SHE REMEMBERS THE SOUND AND THE MEANING OF HER OWN NAME.
THAT'S ENOUGH, MR. FLYNN. TELL THE DEVIL JUDGE CRATER SENT YOU!
CRATER! THE NAME IS LIKE AN ICE-DAGGER IN AMELIA'S HEART!
CRATER!!
THE DRUGGED STUPOR IS MERCILESSLY LIFTED AND SHE REMEMBERS: ALL THE POOR, BEGGING SOULS CRATER DESTROYED... CRUEL LAUGHTER COMING FROM HIS TORTURE CHAMBERS... THE TOUCH OF THOSE CLAMMY HANDS, WHICH SHE SUCCUMBED TO UPON PAIN OF INSTANT AND TERRIBLE DEATH... SHE REMEMBERS HIM...


...ALL TOO WELL!
CHAK!
STAY BACK! I AM YOUR QUEEN!!
THE GODDESS HAS RETURNED
THEY KNOW YOU FLEW THE FLAME, AMELIA! THEY WORSHIP YOU!!
SENSING THE BALANCE OF POWER HAS SHIFTED, THE DRAGON RIDERS BEAT A HASTY RETREAT
ONLY TO ENCOUNTER A SOLID WALL OF RESISTANCE

NIGHT FALLS AND AMELIA'S NEWFOUND DISCIPLES PREPARE TO BE HOSPITABLE HOSTS.
WELCOME BACK, OLD TIMER! MEET AMELIA EARHART FROM THE GOOD OL' U.S. OF A.! SHE WAS ON A 'ROUND-THE-WORLD FLIGHT WHEN SHE WOUND UP HERE.
HUNH?
IMPOSSIBLE!
I'M AFRAID NOT, MR BIERCE MY LOCKHEED ELECTRA IS SITTING OUTSIDE RIGHT NOW. I REMEMBER SEEING A GREEN LIGHT COMING FROM A CAVE
WELL, I'D RATHER NOT THINK ABOUT IT RIGHT NOW. I HAVE A SERUM THAT SERVES AS AN ANTIDOTE TO ZORRIN'S WELL WATER.
. THE COURT DOCTOR AND I WHIPPED IT UP IN ORDER TO KEEP OUR WITS ABOUT US. HAVE A SWIG!
THANK YOU
I'LL TELL YOU WHAT WE NEED TO THINK ABOUT. LET'S FIGURE OUT HOW WE'RE GONNA GET TO CASTLE ZORRIN!!
PERHAPS I CAN BE OF SERVICE

MEANWHILE...
MIND YOUR STEP, MISS RIFKIND
AS YOU CAN SEE, IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE'VE ACCOMODATED GUESTS...
WHO WERE THEY?
NO ONE MERELY THE UNFORTUNATES WHO COULD NOT BE PREVAILED UPON TO ACCEPT THE WAY.

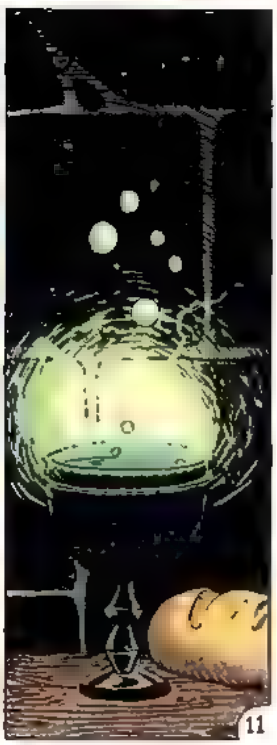
WHAT WAY IS THAT, POCK-FACE?

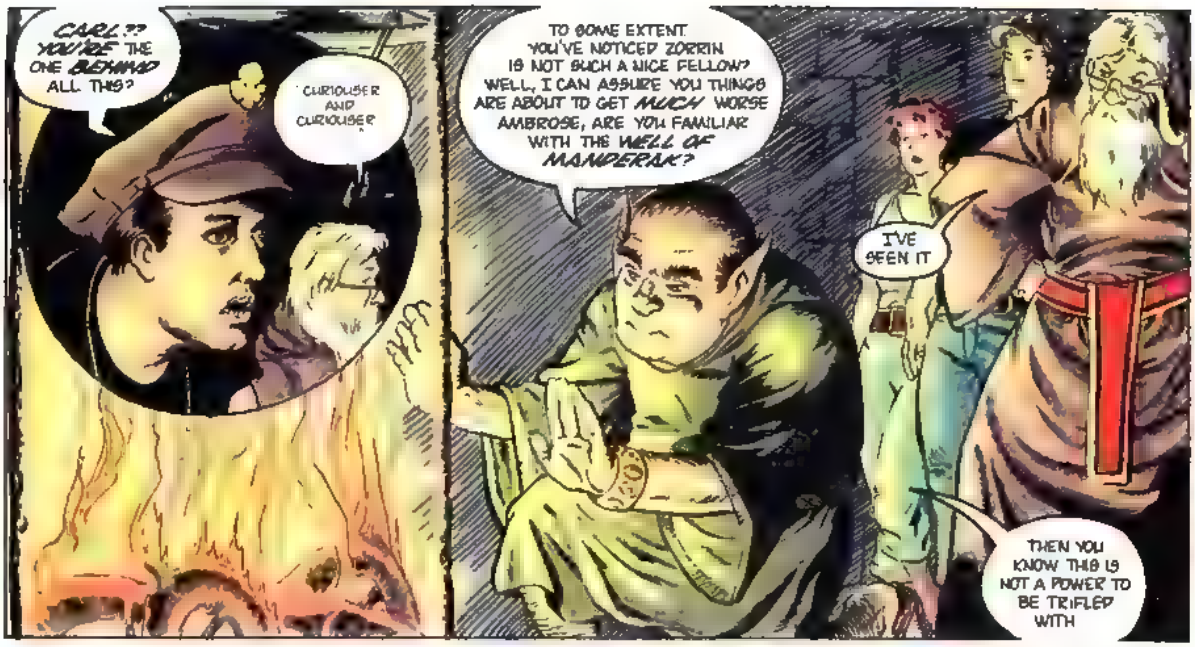
THE WAY OF MANNEROUK... THE DARK LORD WHOSE BACKER CAUSE WE MUST ALL SERVE
A CAUSE SERVED BY DEBUTY AND DISMEMBERMENT, IT WOULD SEEM.

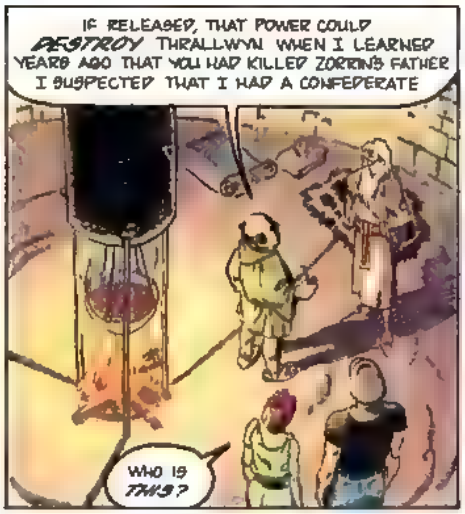
THE WAY IS NOT EASY FOR SOME BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER
IN THE END, BY DYING HERE, SO CLOSE TO THE DARK LORD THEIR SOULS BECOME HIS AND HE GROWS EVER STRONGER

PLEASANT DREAMS
YOU ARE SICK.

YOU'LL FIND SUSTENANCE IN THE CORNER OF THE CELL YOU WILL NEED IT
GOOD NIGHT




CARL?? YOU'RE THE ONE BEHIND ALL THIS?
CURIOUSER AND CURIOUSER
TO SOME EXTENT YOU'VE NOTICED ZORRIN IS NOT SUCH A NICE FELLOW? WELL, I CAN ASSURE YOU THINGS ARE ABOUT TO GET MUCH WORSE AMBROSE, ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE WELL OF MANDERAK?
I'VE SEEN IT
THEN YOU KNOW THIS IS NOT A POWER TO BE TRIFLED WITH

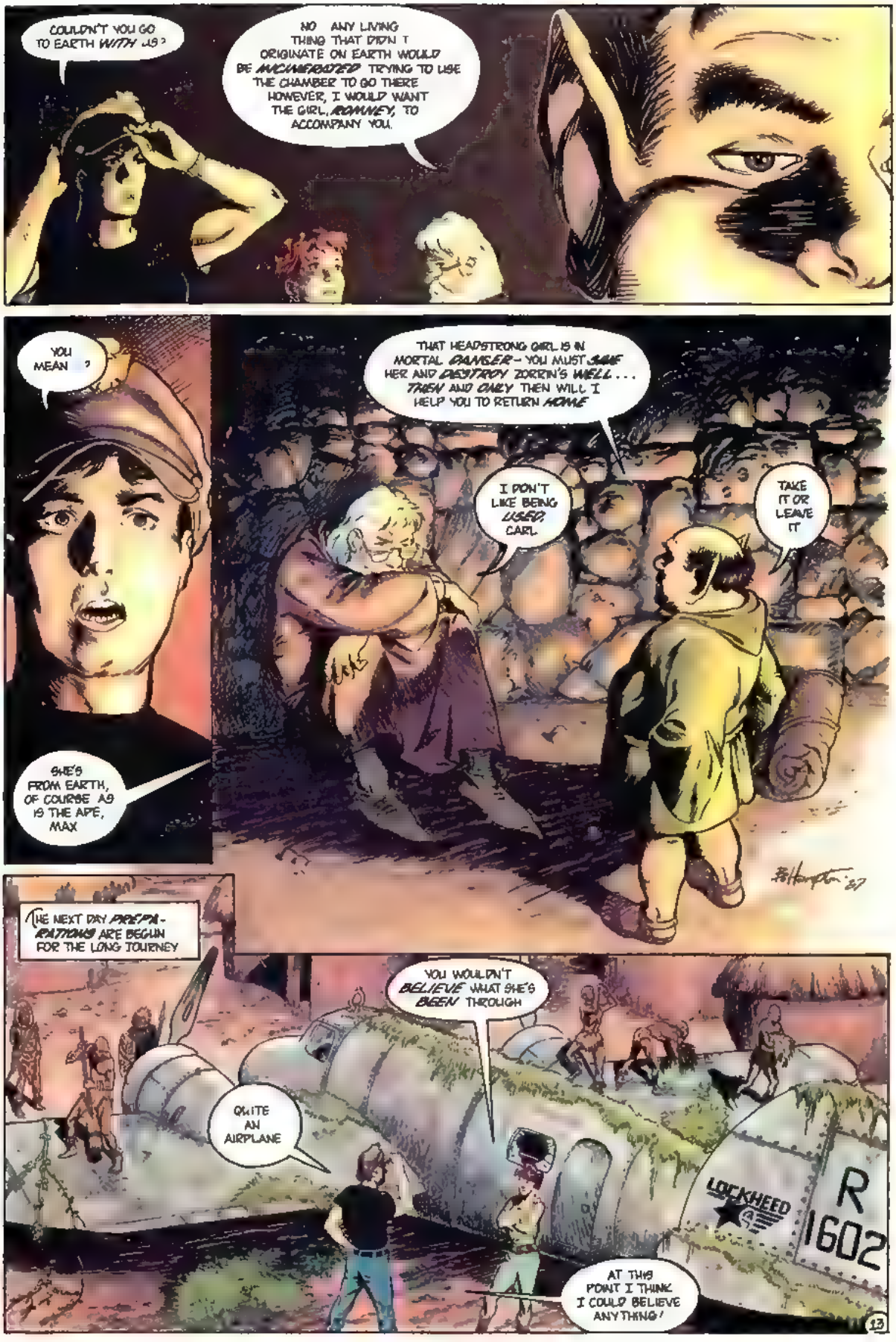

IF RELEASED, THAT POWER COULD DESTROY THRALLWYN WHEN I LEARNED YEARS AGO THAT YOU HAD KILLED ZORRIN'S FATHER I SUSPECTED THAT I HAD A CONFEDERATE
WHO IS THIS?

SO I SENT ONE OF MY ASSISTANTS TO, AHEM, ASSIST YOU FROM TIME TO TIME
A RAVEN WITH A BIG MOUTH--I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN!!

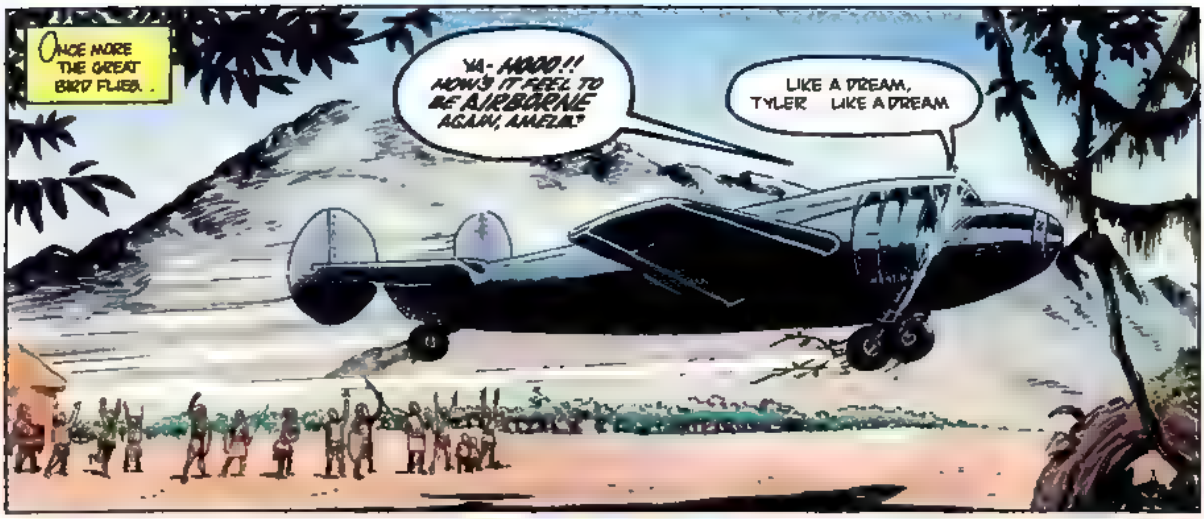
LISTEN TO ME . IF ONLY TO INSURE YOUR OWN SURVIVAL ZORRIN MUST BE STOPPED!! THE WOMAN, AMELIA, SHOULD PROVE VALUABLE

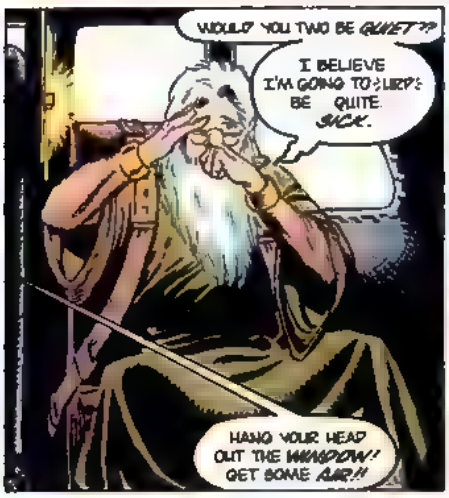
AND IF I DON'T, YOU'LL PREVENT MY RETURN TO EARTH.
THE CAVE DOOR IS KEPT CLOSED NEARLY ALL OF THE TIME . A SYSTEM SIMILAR TO YOUR EARTH HYDRAULICS, FROM WHAT LITTLE I UNDERSTAND OF IT. AT ANY RATE YOU COULD NEVER FIND IT WITHOUT MY HELP!!

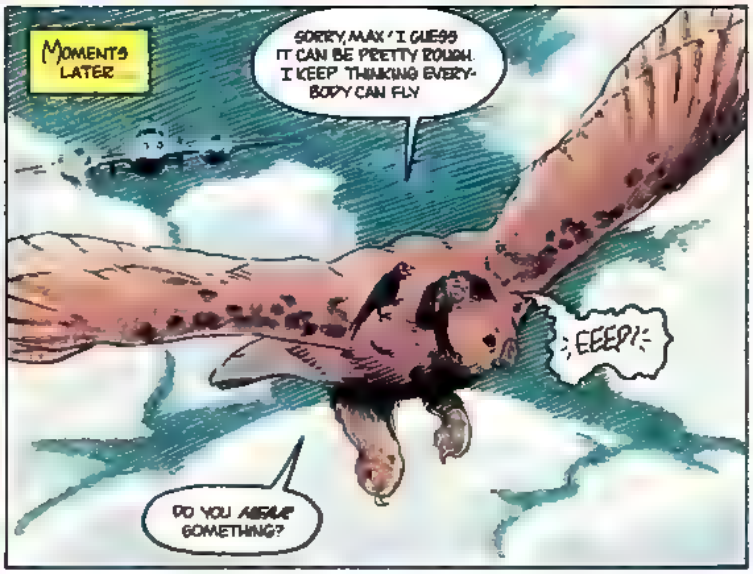
YOU'RE IN LEAGUE WITH THE SCIENTISTS, AREN'T YOU?
IN SPIRIT, PERHAPS--THEY ARE ALL LONG DEAD NOW, BUT MY PEOPLE DESCENDED FROM THEM WE WOULD SEE ORDER RESTORED TO OUR WORLD OBVIOUSLY SCIENCE CAN BE MISUSED--BUT WE'VE LEARNED FROM OUR MISTAKES
AND IF THE ALTERNATIVE IS THE GOD IN THE WELL, NO SANE PERSON WOULD WANT TO REMAIN HERE


COULDN'T YOU GO TO EARTH WITH US?
NO ANY LIVING THING THAT DIDN'T ORIGINATE ON EARTH WOULD BE INCINERATED! TRYING TO USE THE CHAMBER TO GO THERE HOWEVER, I WOULD WANT THE GIRL, ROMNEY, TO ACCOMPANY YOU.
YOU MEAN?
SHE'S FROM EARTH, OF COURSE AS IS THE APE, MAX
THAT HEADSTRONG GIRL IS IN MORTAL DANGER - YOU MUST SAVE HER AND DESTROY ZORRIN'S WELL... THEN AND ONLY THEN WILL I HELP YOU TO RETURN HOME
I DON'T LIKE BEING USED, CARL
TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT
THE NEXT DAY PREPARATIONS ARE BEGUN FOR THE LONG JOURNEY
YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE WHAT SHE'S BEEN THROUGH
QUITE AN AIRPLANE
LOCKHEED
R 1602
AT THIS POINT I THINK I COULD BELIEVE ANYTHING!
13

IS THE ELECTRA READY FOR TAKE-OFF, AMELIA??
YEP!
HUH??
LET'S GET ABOARD--I'LL EXPLAIN!
AS I'VE TOLD AMELIA ALREADY, BEFORE CARL LEFT HE GAVE ME SOMETHING...
...A DEVICE HIS ANCESTORS PERFECTED BEFORE THEIR DEMISE 300 YEARS AGO.
HE CALLED IT A POWER CUBE... SAID IT COULD ACTIVATE ANYTHING MECHANICAL INCLUDING THIS AIRPLANE
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!!
WE CAN'T LOSE THIS LITTLE BUGGER, THOUGH... IT HAS TO BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE EMERALDS TO GET US BACK TO EARTH...
...IN OTHER WORDS WE USE THE EMERALDS TO RESTORE THE "BALANCE" WHICH OPENS THE CIRCUIT TO EARTH...
...BUT IT'S THE POWER OF THE GENERATORS UNDER CARL'S MOUNTAIN THAT WILL ACTUALLY SEND US THERE.
AND CARL NEEDS THAT THING TO CUT ON THE GENERATORS?
YEAH, AND ALL WE NEED TO DO, SUPPOSEDLY, IS TO TOUCH IT TO ANYTHING METAL ON THE LOCKHEED AND SHE'LL FLY AGAIN!
HEY, YOU GUYS!! LET'S HIT IT!!
PSST!! HOW DO YOU SUPPOSE AMELIA GOT HERE, ANYWAY?
I DON'T KNOW, SAME AS YOU, I GUESS... WE WERE REQUIRED APPARENTLY. LET'S WORRY ABOUT THAT ONE LATER, OKAY, FLYNN??
I BORROWED YOUR JACKET, TYLER! IT WAS THE FINAL TOUCH! DO YOU MIND?
NAH! BUT YOU PROBABLY WON'T FIND ANY PRACTICAL USE FOR THE HEADPHONES! I'M SURE WE'RE CLEARED FOR TAKE-OFF!!

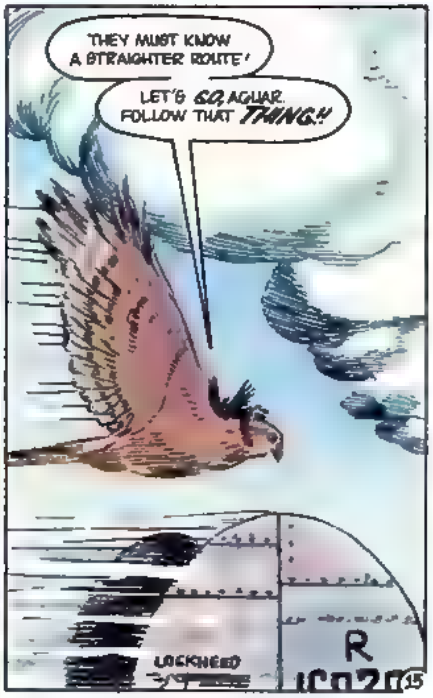

ONCE MORE THE GREAT BIRD FLIES..
YA-HOOO!! HOW'S IT FEEL TO BE AIRBORNE AGAIN, AMELIA?
LIKE A DREAM, TYLER LIKE A DREAM


WOULD YOU TWO BE QUIET??
I BELIEVE I'M GOING TO :URP: BE QUITE SICK.
HANG YOUR HEAD OUT THE WINDOW! GET SOME AIR!!


MOMENTS LATER
SORRY, MAX ' I GUESS IT CAN BE PRETTY ROUGH. I KEEP THINKING EVERY-BODY CAN FLY
:EEEP!:
DO YOU HEAR SOMETHING?

WHAT IN ALL THE- HOLD ON!
:EEP?:

IT'S AMBROSE!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! HE'S ACTUALLY AHEAD OF ME FOR ONCE!!


THEY MUST KNOW A STRAIGHTER ROUTE!
LET'S GO, AGUAR. FOLLOW THAT THING!!
LOCKHEED
R
15

CASTLE ZORRIN
EEEEEEEYA
AAAIIEEE
EEEEEEEEEEE
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?
DO YOU STILL NOT SEE??
YOUR TORMENT FEEDS MANDERAK. HE IS A NECROSPY GOD AND I AM BUT HIS VASSAL, HIS MASTER CHEF, IF YOU WILL.
BUT EMMORAY I SEE YOU MAY LOSE CONSCIOUSNESS SOON AND THAT WON'T DO, SO I'LL SEND YOU BACK TO YOUR ROOM.
. .ALL THIS WORK HAS GIVEN ME QUITE AN APPETITE!!
WATER
ALL THE NOURISHMENT YOU REQUIRE CAN BE FOUND IN YOUR CELL. GOOD NIGHT
I WON'T BE ABLE TO HOLD BACK TOMORROW
TOMORROW I USE THE NEEDLES AND THE GIRL WILL DIE!
AHHH THE ANTICIPATION! IT'S GLORIOUS!
MAY THE NIGHTMARE NEVER END
TO BE CONTINUED...
16

Story and Art Bo Hampton / Coloring Tom Littlejohn / Lettering Tracy Hampton / Editing Letitia Glozer

Bo,

I just wanted to take a moment and say what a pleasure **Lost Planet** #4 was. The art once again just flows with caring and passion. It is easily one of the three most beautiful books not only to look at but also to read. I would truly be negligent if I also didn't mention the astonishing colours by Tom Littlejohn. His colours make your jungles and backgrounds come alive with vibrant intensity, without being garish or "loud." (Any chance of him drawing a backup feature?)

Scott's backup was as stunning as the rest of his work. It once again flowed with romanticism and warmth. Very complimentary to the lead story.

I must admit I'm sorry to see **Lost Planet** will end with six so you can move on to **Total Eclipse,** even though I understand the reasons why. I don't think it can come close to the charm and joy that **Lost Planet** brings. Any chance of Tom colouring it?

Well, thanks again for a great book. By the way, it was nice to see you again at the IADD meeting. It was a shame I didn't have a chance to chat some more. Also, I like the "Family Profile" page. You seemed to catch Toby's true essence. (Hi,Toby.)

Wayne Markley
New Orleans, LA

P.S. 1) Kirby and all the guys say "hi."

2) Sorry about the spelling, but I "spaced" my dictionary today.

3) Good Luck on **Total Eclipse** anyway.

*Thanks, Wayne, I'm going to give* ***Total Eclipse*** *my best shot and I'll be anxious to hear what you think when it hits the stands in May!*

*Thanks especially for the kind words about Tom Littlejohn, who for my money is one of the best colourists around. Brother Toby says "Guten Tag!" (He's living in Germany now.)*

*And Bunny's glad you liked the "family" pages. That stuff is true about everybody but* ***me****–but then that's what we all say! - Bo*

Dear Cat,

This is to tell you I enjoyed **Lost Planet** #1. My copy proudly possesses a personal inscription from Bo Hampton. When I was at Delta Con III in New Orleans this May, I met and talked with Bo and John Dell, another artist. I enjoyed the talk immensely. Please tell Bo I said hello and that I'm sorry I couldn't be there the next day.

With this, I am inviting you and the others who work at Eclipse to Peli-Con in New Orleans in November. I am not a member of the organization board, but you might enjoy a trip to the "Big Easy," as New Orleans is known. We even have a 1970 mystery novel and a 1987 mystery movie named after us (the name, "Big Easy," comes from the early part of the 20th century and jazz music—there was also a "Big Easy Hall" jazz club.

George Williams
Angie, LA

Dear Lost Planeteer,

Thanks for beginning what looks to be one of the most interesting series in a long while. And I do mean "interesting." There have been some great entertaining or epic-scale comics lately, such as **Luger** or **Watchmen,** but **Lost Planet** works on a different level than either of them. Flynn not only has to figure out what to do, but where he is and what the rules

are. Obviously, the rules are not the same as they are here.

I look forward to seeing how this world...planet...unfolds. I can't wait to find out what Ambrose's part in all this is; he seems to be something of a wild card in an otherwise very set game.

Thanks again, Bo.

Michelle Johnson
Rio Nido, CA

*This issue should have answered some of your questions about Ambrose, but he's not out of the "wild card" category yet—stay tuned.*

Dear Bo,

I really enjoy reading **Lost Planet**. The art is nicely rendered, and the story is well written. I've been following your work since **Luger**. Hope you keep up the good work.

Lynn Smellow
San Pablo, CA

Dear Hamptons and Ms. Glozer,

**Lost Planet** is a very classy act! The coloring is maybe a little dark, but every single other thing about it (story, artwork, lettering and text page) is so far above average that I hope to see more. The reason I like this mini-series is the whole bit with another world where Earth people may go when they die. (If that's what is happening here.)

Thank you for a nice series.

Paul Driscoll
Berkeley, CA

Dear Bo,

**Lost Planet** is progressing very well. I just finished reading #2 (what a cover!), and, while still confused, I feel the story is sufficiently promising (and mysterious, exotic, and fascinating) to keep my curiosity aroused.

My only complaint is in benefit to those who may feel differently: the lack of "cliff-hanger" endings each issue. The responsibility of a mini-series, especially one based upon original material and characters, is to lure readers with each succeeding issue, and I fear the undramatic chapter endings of the first two issues may discourage borderline-readers from continuing to buy the rest of the run. (I realize this is moot, as you are probably finishing work on #5 right now, but it might well be worth filing away for future mini-series, as well as long-term projects.)

"Devil's Eye" in #2 was particularly pleasing, and I definitely want to see more work by this team. The impressionist artwork by Mark Chiarello was breath-taking, and a nice contrast with that of your own story. Bunny's contribution as a writer is exciting and provocative, and I am pleased that a family effort can exhibit such continuity with the main story while still being able to stand by itself as an individual creation.

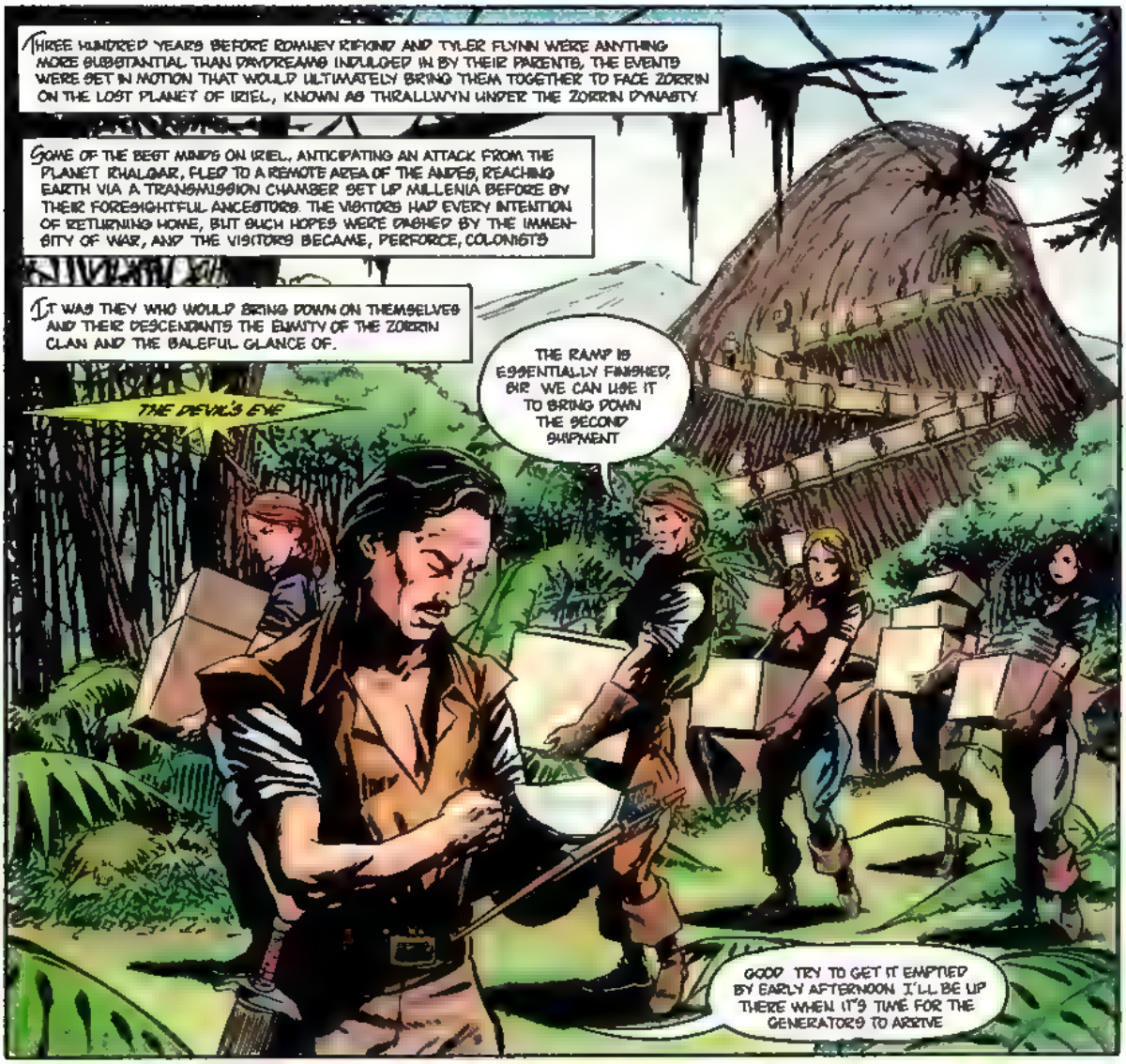
I certainly hope that **Lost Planet** will become sufficiently successful to expand beyond six issues, as there seems to be a wealth of material from which to draw, and not only in the realm of "missing persons," but also in that of mysterious or controversial deaths (Jim Morrison of The Doors springs to mind, in addition to James Dean, JFK, et al). In fact, the Lost Planet would serve incredibly well as the arena in which to resurrect one of my favorite missing persons from the Eclipse Universe–**AZTEC ACE**!

And I didn't mention Commando Cody once, so there.

Up the Revolution.
D. Kingsley Hahn
St. Paul, MN

*"Commando Cody and His Lost Planet Airmen" could very well have been where the title of this book came from, D.K., but I seem to recall a movie from the '60s with the name 'Lost Planet'—or maybe that was 'Lost World'. Thanks for the advice. I hope you like the ending for this issue.*

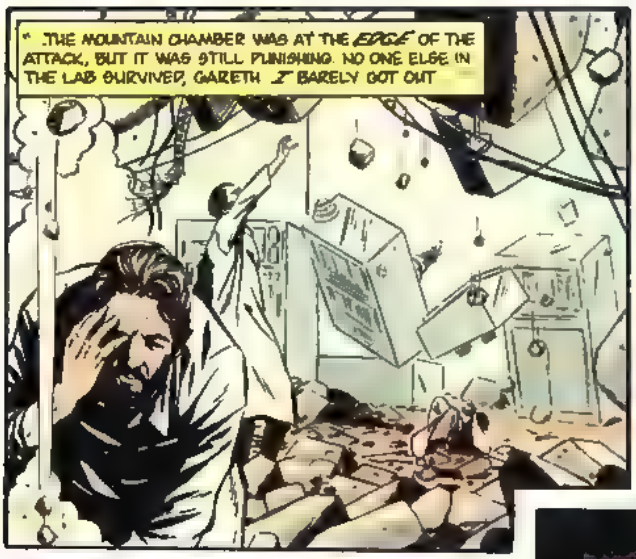
*Bunny adds, "Thanks, D.K. You've certainly hit the nail on its proverbial head: "Family **effort** is precisely the right phrase. With so many of us working often on the same thing at the same time in the same room on the same **planet**, I sometimes think I'm going to pull all my hair out in sheer frustration. A kind word from a reader like you may prevent me from becoming prematurely bald. (I'm sure Bo, Scott, and Tracy thank you, too, because when I get tired of pulling my own hair, I go pull theirs!)"*


THREE HUNDRED YEARS BEFORE ROMNEY RIFKIND AND TYLER FLYNN WERE ANYTHING MORE SUBSTANTIAL THAN DAYDREAMS INDULGED IN BY THEIR PARENTS, THE EVENTS WERE SET IN MOTION THAT WOULD ULTIMATELY BRING THEM TOGETHER TO FACE ZORRIN ON THE LOST PLANET OF IRIEL, KNOWN AS THRALLWYN UNDER THE ZORRIN DYNASTY.
SOME OF THE BEST MINDS ON IRIEL, ANTICIPATING AN ATTACK FROM THE PLANET KHALGAR, FLED TO A REMOTE AREA OF THE ANDES, REACHING EARTH VIA A TRANSMISSION CHAMBER SET UP MILLENIA BEFORE BY THEIR FORESIGHTFUL ANCESTORS. THE VISITORS HAD EVERY INTENTION OF RETURNING HOME, BUT SUCH HOPES WERE DASHED BY THE IMMENSITY OF WAR, AND THE VISITORS BECAME, PERFORCE, COLONISTS
IT WAS THEY WHO WOULD BRING DOWN ON THEMSELVES AND THEIR DESCENDANTS THE ENMITY OF THE ZORRIN CLAN AND THE BALEFUL GLANCE OF.
THE DEVIL'S EYE
THE RAMP IS ESSENTIALLY FINISHED, SIR. WE CAN USE IT TO BRING DOWN THE SECOND SHIPMENT
GOOD. TRY TO GET IT EMPTIED BY EARLY AFTERNOON. I'LL BE UP THERE WHEN IT'S TIME FOR THE GENERATORS TO ARRIVE

A CAVE SERVES AS A MAKESHIFT LABORATORY
DARIEN, WE AREN'T GOING TO BE ON THIS PLANET LONG ENOUGH TO BUILD A FIFTY-FOOT WALL! WHY DON'T YOU DESIGN AN AUTOMATIC GUARD SYSTEM?
THAT'S BORING, GARETH. THERE'S NO MUSIC IN YOUR SOUL.
SINCE WHEN DO SCIENTISTS HAVE SOULS?

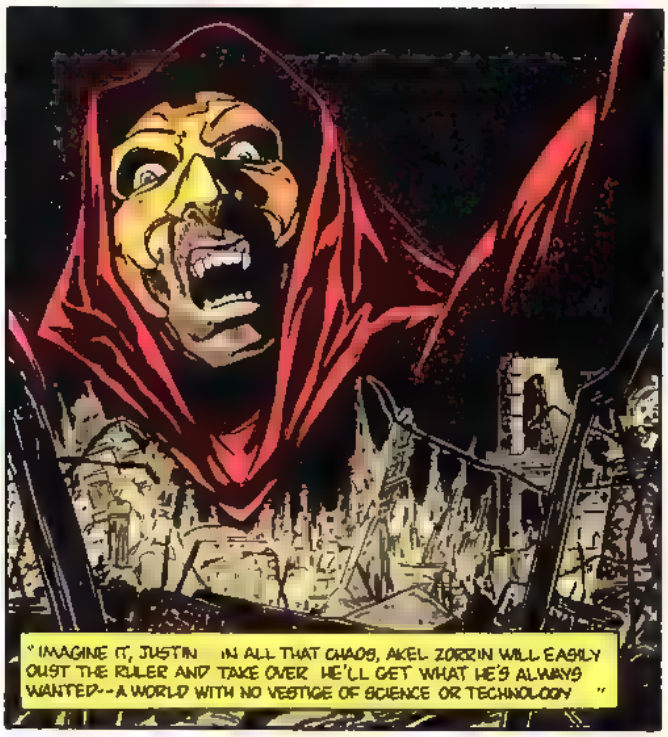
Story/Bunny Hampton-Mack Art/Garrett Lavin Coloring/Tom Littlejohn Lettering/Tracy Hampton Editing/Letitia Glozer

PERHAPS ON A NEW PLANET WE COULD TRY TO BE FRIENDS, MISS FELSTROM?
WHY? WE ONLY HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER, CAPTAIN. WE ARE UNDER NO OBLIGATION TO LIKE EACH OTHER
WHY SHOULD WE DISLIKE EACH OTHER?
SUFFICE IT TO SAY I LOVE BOOKS, MUSIC, AND ART, YOU LOVE MICROCHIPS, LASERS, AND MISSILES I STUDY NATURE, YOU STUDY WAYS TO DESTROY IT
IT MAKES NO DAMNED DIFFERENCE TO YOU THAT WE WERE WORKING ON WEAPONS TO DEFEND YOU FROM A RHALGAR ATTACK?
CAPTAIN, HISTORICALLY, IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR PEOPLE LIKE YOU-- OR ISRIEL AND RHALGAR-- WE NEVER WOULD HAVE BEEN IN DANGER IN THE FIRST PLACE EXCUSE ME I'M BUSY SIR!
LATER THAT DAY
YOU GO ON DOWN I'LL WAIT FOR THE GENERATORS
THANKS, SIR I WAS GETTING HUNGRY
TWENTY MINUTES LATER, A FLASH OF LIGHT SIGNALS THE ARRIVAL OF THE LAST SHIPMENT
WHAT THE HELL?! WHERE ARE THE GENERATORS, JUSTIN?
WE COULDN'T FINISH THE MINIATURIZATION WORK ON THE GENERATORS IN TIME, GARETH THE RHALGAR ATTACK HAS BEEN FIERCE..
2


" THE MOUNTAIN CHAMBER WAS AT THE EDGE OF THE ATTACK, BUT IT WAS STILL RUINING. NO ONE ELSE IN THE LAB SURVIVED, GARETH ... I BARELY GOT OUT

WITHOUT THOSE GENERATORS, WE CAN'T LEAVE HERE, DAMN IT! WE CAN'T GO HOME, JUSTIN!

"I DON'T THINK YOU'D WANT TO, GARETH THE RHALGAR FINALE WILL COME TONIGHT-- THE BIG MISSILES! THAT'S THEIR PATTERN THEY'LL DESTROY OUR CITIES AND DECIMATE OUR POPULATION, SO THAT THEY HAVE NO GALACTIC COMPETITION FOR DECADES "

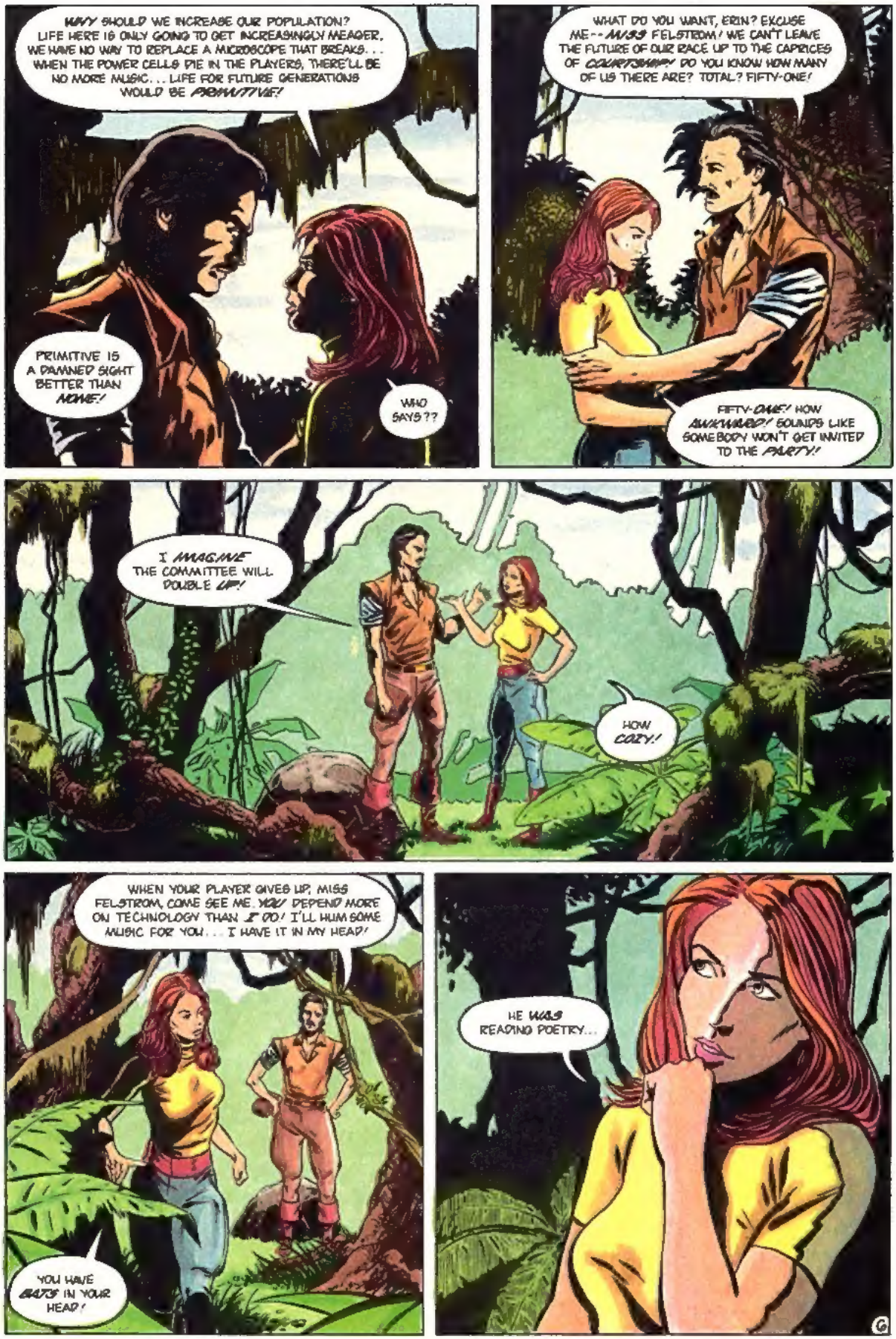

"IMAGINE IT, JUSTIN ... IN ALL THAT CHAOS, AKEL ZORRIN WILL EASILY OUST THE RULER AND TAKE OVER. HE'LL GET WHAT HE'S ALWAYS WANTED--A WORLD WITH NO VESTIGE OF SCIENCE OR TECHNOLOGY "

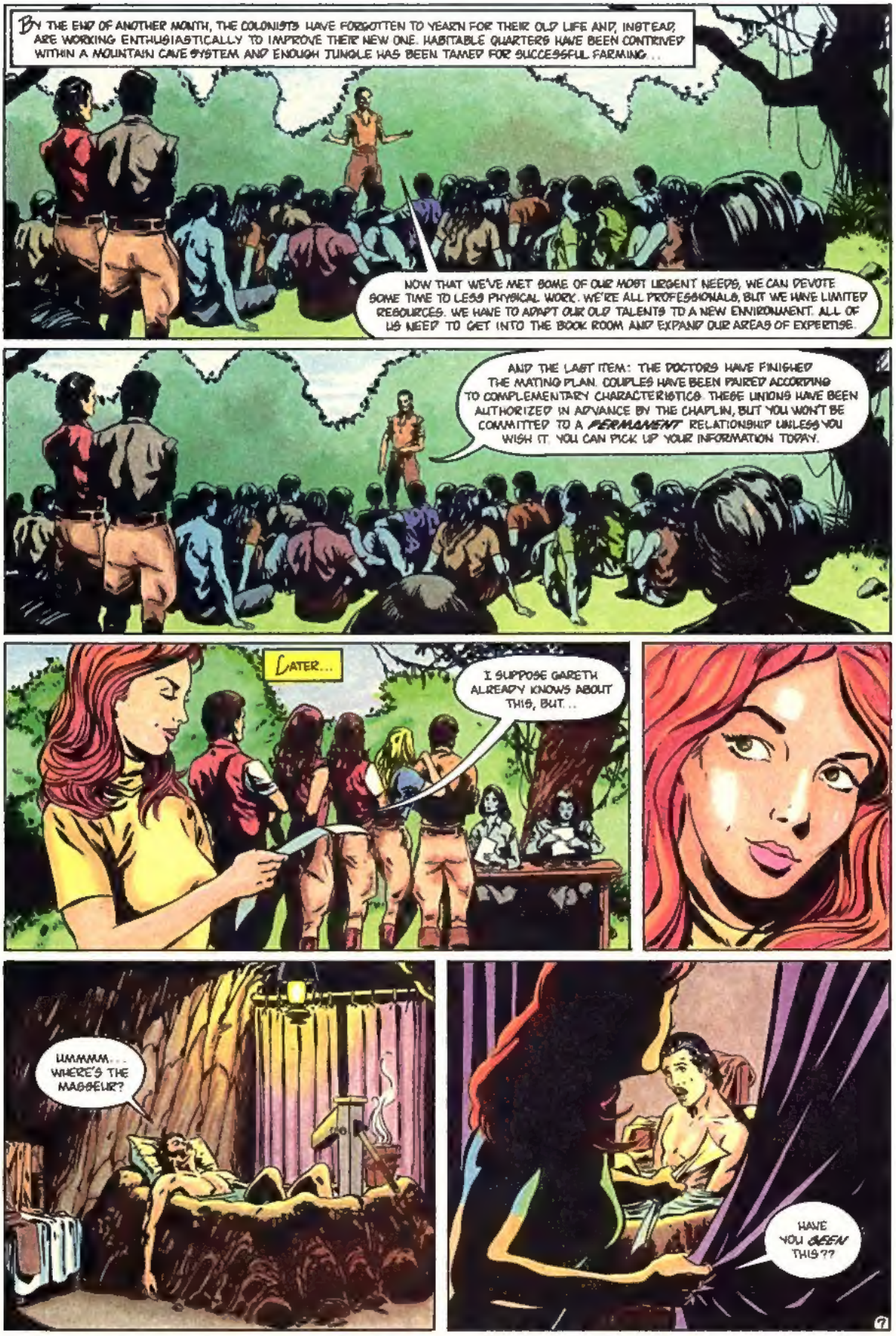
TRUE. BUT A GREAT DEAL OF MAGIC. ZORRIN'S MORE POWERFUL THAN WE SUSPECTED. HE HAS AN AGENT-- A MONSTER THAT DOES HIS WILL FOR SHORT PERIODS. IT CAN HOME IN ON ANY ENEMY-- IT'S A DEMON-
YESSSSS. A DEMON!

A THUNDEROUS VOICE, GLEEFULLY SADISTIC, ROLLS OVER THEM.
A GUARDIAN...

SENT TO WATCH OVER YOU.
...ETERNALLY!
...SSSSSS!
CHUK!

THE DEMON WILL BE BACK IN ANOTHER SHAPE, BUT IT'LL TAKE A WHILE. IT'S A TERRIFIC DRAIN ON ZORRIN'S POWER TO GIVE THAT THING FORM.
SMALL CONSOLATION. WITH POWER LIKE THAT, AKEL WILL REDUCE RIEL'S SURVIVORS TO THE MOST ABYSMAL LEVEL OF IGNORANCE AND FEAR...
...HE'LL HOLD THEM IN THRALL FOR CENTURIES...
TWO MONTHS LATER...
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU READ POETRY, CAPTAIN!
IT'S UNETHICAL!
IT'S RATIONAL!
IT... IT'S SEXUAL ROULETTE!
IT'S THE ONLY WAY!
I DON'T.. I MEAN...I LOST ONE OF MY SCHEMATICS, AND I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE TUCKED IN A BOOK.
I SEE.
WAS THERE SOMETHING YOU NEEDED?
DAMN RIGHT! I NEED TO LIVE ON A PLANET WHERE THE MEDICAL STAFF HASN'T GONE MAD!
MISS FELSTROM, THEIR PROPOSAL TO PAIR COUPLES IS A NECESSARY EVIL, AN ORGANIZED WAY TO INCREASE OUR POPULATION. IT LACKS ROMANCE, TRUE, BUT-
5


WHY SHOULD WE INCREASE OUR POPULATION? LIFE HERE IS ONLY GOING TO GET INCREASINGLY MEAGER. WE HAVE NO WAY TO REPLACE A MICROSCOPE THAT BREAKS... WHEN THE POWER CELLS DIE IN THE PLAYERS, THERE'LL BE NO MORE MUSIC... LIFE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS WOULD BE PRIMITIVE!
PRIMITIVE IS A DAMNED SIGHT BETTER THAN NONE!
WHO SAYS??
WHAT DO YOU WANT, ERIN? EXCUSE ME--MISS FELSTROM! WE CAN'T LEAVE THE FUTURE OF OUR RACE UP TO THE CAPRICES OF COURTSHIP! DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY OF US THERE ARE? TOTAL? FIFTY-ONE!
FIFTY-ONE! HOW AWKWARD! SOUNDS LIKE SOMEBODY WON'T GET INVITED TO THE PARTY!
I IMAGINE THE COMMITTEE WILL DOUBLE UP!
HOW COZY!
WHEN YOUR PLAYER GIVES UP, MISS FELSTROM, COME SEE ME. YOU DEPEND MORE ON TECHNOLOGY THAN I DO! I'LL HUM SOME MUSIC FOR YOU... I HAVE IT IN MY HEAD!
YOU HAVE BATS IN YOUR HEAD!
HE WAS READING POETRY...


BY THE END OF ANOTHER MONTH, THE COLONISTS HAVE FORGOTTEN TO YEARN FOR THEIR OLD LIFE AND, INSTEAD, ARE WORKING ENTHUSIASTICALLY TO IMPROVE THEIR NEW ONE. HABITABLE QUARTERS HAVE BEEN CONTRIVED WITHIN A MOUNTAIN CAVE SYSTEM AND ENOUGH JUNGLE HAS BEEN TAMED FOR SUCCESSFUL FARMING...
NOW THAT WE'VE MET SOME OF OUR MOST URGENT NEEDS, WE CAN DEVOTE SOME TIME TO LESS PHYSICAL WORK. WE'RE ALL PROFESSIONALS, BUT WE HAVE LIMITED RESOURCES. WE HAVE TO ADAPT OUR OLD TALENTS TO A NEW ENVIRONMENT. ALL OF US NEED TO GET INTO THE BOOK ROOM AND EXPAND OUR AREAS OF EXPERTISE.
AND THE LAST ITEM: THE DOCTORS HAVE FINISHED THE MATING PLAN. COUPLES HAVE BEEN PAIRED ACCORDING TO COMPLEMENTARY CHARACTERISTICS. THESE UNIONS HAVE BEEN AUTHORIZED IN ADVANCE BY THE CHAPLIN, BUT YOU WON'T BE COMMITTED TO A PERMANENT RELATIONSHIP UNLESS YOU WISH IT. YOU CAN PICK UP YOUR INFORMATION TODAY.
LATER...
I SUPPOSE GARETH ALREADY KNOWS ABOUT THIS, BUT...
UMMMM... WHERE'S THE MASSEUR?
HAVE YOU BEEN THIS??

HAVE YOU?
WHA... UH... WHAT?
OH, EXCUSE ME...
IT'S ALL RIGHT... UH... I'LL BE RIGHT WITH YOU.
I PICKED MINE UP THIS MORNING. I KNEW YOU'D HAVE FORTY FITS WHEN YOU SAW IT. I ADMIT IT'S EXTREMELY AWKWARD, AND IT WON'T BE EASY FOR YOU-- GOING TO BED WITH A MAN YOU DON'T LOVE, BUT-
I'M NOT-
LOOK, DAMN IT! YOU HAVE TO WHAT IF ALL THE WOMEN REACTED LIKE THIS? THEY MATCHED US FOR A REASON, YOU KNOW. CHANCES ARE WE'D HAVE A CHILD THAT WAS AN EXCEPTIONAL BLEND OF OUR TRAITS. BUT IF YOU REFUSE, THEN LET'S GO TO THE COMMITTEE AND--
WHOA! LET ME FINISH. I WAS GOING TO SAY THAT, AS IT HAPPENS, I'M NOT GOING TO BED WITH A MAN I DON'T LOVE
COY, MISS FELSTROM... VERY COY...
...A LITTLE MUSIC? OR WILL YOU BE OFFENDED BY THE INTRUSION OF "TECHNOLOGY"?
THIS HAS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO DO WITH TECHNOLOGY, SIR... IT'S A PURELY ARTISTIC ENDEAVOR...
I THINK YOU'RE IN FOR A FEW SURPRISES, CAPTAIN RIFKIND!
YOU KNOW, I BET AN EXCEPTIONAL CHILD WILL REQUIRE VERY LITTLE DIAPER-CHANGING...

fin.